



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Operation Tribute Month

WHEREAS, in 2008 Operation Tribute was launched in Rhode Island to provide a holiday gift to each participating child of Rhode Island's military families, including Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Reserves and National Guard; and

WHEREAS, there are over 6,000 young people in the state of Rhode Island that have a parent who serves in the military during the holidays; and

WHEREAS, in 2009 and 2010, Operation Tribute acquired, gift wrapped and individually distributed over 4,000 holiday gifts in over 40 cities and towns throughout the state of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, Operation Tribute expanded throughout New England, New York, New Jersey and Ohio, providing over 32,000 holiday gifts to over 1,100 cities and towns; and


WHEREAS, over 98% of all funds raised were used for the acquisition and distribution of these gifts; and

WHEREAS, the sacrifices and bravery of the children of military families - a group of unsung heroes during these difficult times - have been acknowledged, commended and rewarded by Operation Tribute; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim December, 2011 as Operation Tribute Month in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this day.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 23rd day of November, 2011


Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor


A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State